

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application (material to be inserted is in **bold and underline**, material to be deleted is in ~~strikeout~~):

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A portable information system that is connected to a communication network by a portable information terminal and obtains specified information from an information providing device connected to this communication network, wherein:

a portable information terminal provides a position information acquiring means that acquires information about its own position, and a communication means that establishes a communication line between said portable information terminal and said communication network via an access point and carries out transmission and reception of said position information and specified information, and provides a communication network connection part wherein said information providing device searches for the home pages of facilities including at least stores and public facilities that are in a specified area centered on the user's position based on the position indicated by said position information received from said portable information terminal, and transmits the home page that was found to the ~~information-portable-device~~ **portable information terminal**;

and wherein said portable information terminal identifies a target portable

information terminal and designates a predetermined area, and said information providing system generates a notification to the portable information terminal when the target portable information terminal enters the predetermined area based on position information received by the information providing system from the target portable information terminal.

2. (Original) A portable information system according to Claim 1 wherein said information providing device searches for URLs of home pages of facilities including stores and public facilities in a table that associates the current position information with the URLs of home pages of facilities including stores and public facilities based on current position information.

3. (Original) A portable information system according to Claim 1 wherein said portable information terminal displays on the display screen of the portable information terminal the home page of a registered facility in the case that the user carrying said portable information terminal approaches within a certain distance of a facility registered with said information providing device when moving through an urban area where facilities including at least stores and public facilities are present.

4. (Original) A portable information system according to Claim 2 wherein said information providing device searches for URLs of home pages of facilities including stores and public facilities in a table that associates the current position information with

the URLs of home pages of facilities including stores and public facilities based on current position information.

5. (Original) A portable information system according to Claim 1 wherein said portable information terminal displays on a display screen the home page of another user of a portable information terminal in the case that, when moving outside, the user carrying said portable information system approaches within a certain distance with respect to the other portable information terminal having the same function.

6. (Original) An information providing system according to Claim 4 wherein said information providing device searches for the URL of home pages of facilities including stores and public facilities in a table that associates the current position information with the URL of the home pages of facilities including the stores and public facilities based on current position information.

7. (Original) An information providing system according to Claim 5 wherein said portable information terminal displays on the display screen of the portable information terminal the home pages of registered facilities in the case that the user carrying said portable information terminal approaches within a certain distance of a facility registered with said information providing device when moving through an urban area where facilities including at least stores and public facilities are present.

8. (Original) An information providing system according to Claim 7 wherein said information providing device searches for the URLs of home pages of facilities including stores and public facilities in a table that associates the current position information and the URLs of homepages of facilities including stores and public facilities based on current position information.

9. (Original) A portable information system according to Claim 1 having a personal database in which at least a registration number, name, sex, age/birthday, nationality, telephone number, address, comments, URL, and the like are associated and stored.

10. (Original) A portable information system according to Claim 1 wherein said portable information terminal possesses a function that sets the search direction and search range for facilities including stores and public facilities, and said information providing device carries out a search of facilities including stores and public facilities that are present within the search range and search direction from this portable information terminal based on said position information.

11. (Original) A portable information system according to Claim 10 wherein said information providing device searches for the URLs of home pages of facilities including stores and public facilities based on position information in a table that associates the current position information with the URLs of home pages of facilities including stores

and public facilities.

12. (Original) A portable information system according to Claim 1 wherein said portable information terminal possesses a function that sets the searches for each type of facility including stores and public facilities, and said information providing system carries out a search of requested facilities including stores and public facilities as a search type from this portable information terminal based on said position information.

13. (Original) A portable information system according to Claim 12 wherein said information providing device searches for URLs of home pages of facilities including stores and public facilities in a table that associates the current position information with the URLs of home pages of facilities that include stores and public facilities based on current position information.

14. (Currently Amended) A portable information system according to Claim 1, in which the user is connected to the line of a server located at a provider using a portable information terminal and obtains information of home pages of facilities that have advertising contracts with this provider, and wherein:

each facility bears the cost of the communication charges for the portable information terminals connected to the server, and in exchange for bearing the communication charges, the provider supplies statistical information and personal information about the users who access the home page to the facility operating the home

page.

15. (New Claim) A portable information system according to Claim 1 wherein the notification to the portable information terminal generates an audible alert by the portable information terminal.

16. (New Claim) A portable information system according to Claim 15 wherein the entry of each target portable information terminal to the predetermined area generates a distinct audible alert.

17. (New Claim) A portable information system according to Claim 1 wherein the predetermined area is centered on the user's position based on the position indicated by said position information received from said portable information terminal.